



Gifted and Talented Language Arts 7 A

Semester A Summary:

In this course, the student will focus on reading, writing, and analyzing informational and narrative texts, as well as developing their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge. The students will read a variety of texts, and develop writing skills for various types of text.

Semester A Outline

1. Gifted and Talented ELA 7 A Course Overview

1. Gifted and Talented Language Arts 7 A Course Overview

2. Reading Informational Text

1. Reading Informational Text Introduction
2. Two or More Central Ideas
 - In this section, you will identify two or more central ideas in a text.
3. Analyzing Central Ideas
 - In this section, you will explain how authors use evidence to develop two or more central ideas in a text.
4. Determining Genre
 - In this section, you will identify a variety of informational/nonfiction genres, and then analyze details of a text to identify its genre.
5. Summarizing Text
 - In this section, you will summarize the facts in a text, without including your opinion.
6. Analyzing Interactions
 - In this section, you will discuss cause and effect relationships between people, events, and ideas in an informational text.
7. Meaning and Word Choice
 - In this section, you will define words and phrases in an informational text using context clues.
 - In this section, you will explain the effect of word choices defined through the use of context clues.
 - In this section, you will define words and phrases in an informational text using context clues.
8. Identifying Evidence
 - In this section, you will locate evidence to support an analysis in an informational text.
 - In this section, you will select evidence to support an analysis of an informational paragraph.
 - In this section, you will identify evidence to support a contradictory analysis.
9. Providing Evidence
 - In this section, you will identify evidence that supports a statement in an informational text.

- In this section, you will identify evidence that supports a statement in an informational text.
- In this section, you will identify evidence that supports a statement in an informational text.

10. Supporting Inferences

- In this section, you will identify evidence that supports an implied idea (an inference) in an informational text.
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- In this section, you will identify evidence that supports an implied idea (an inference) in an informational text.

11. Reading Informational Text Apply

- In this section, you will analyze an informational article about Jackie Robinson.

12. Reading Informational Review and Reflect

13. Reading Informational Text Unit Test

3. **Grammar and Punctuation**

1. Grammar and Punctuation Introduction

2. Subject and Verb Agreement

- In this section, you will identify subject-verb agreement when a prepositional phrase comes between the subject and the verb.
- In this section, you will identify subject-verb agreement when the subject follows the verb (inverted word order) and when the subject is an indefinite pronoun.
- In this section, you will identify subject-verb agreement when the subject names a group of people or things (a collective noun).

3. Verb Tense and Point of View

- In this section, you will identify different points of view and verb tenses and revise writing to maintain consistency in point of view and verb tense.

4. Adjectives and Adverbs

- In this section, you will construct compound adjectives.
- In this section, you will select adverbs that modify adjectives.

5. Using Pronouns

- In this section, you will identify pronouns that agree with their antecedents in number and person.
- In this section, you will compose sentences with the relative pronouns whose, who, and whom correctly.
- In this section, you will compose sentences with the relative pronouns which and that correctly.

6. Direct and Indirect Objects

- In this section, you will identify and use indirect and direct objects.

7. Using a Comma

- In this section, you will select correct comma usage when separating coordinate adjectives.

8. Using Semicolons

- In this section, you will write sentences, replacing commas with semicolons in a series.
- In this section, you will compose sentences with colons and semicolons.

9. Grammar and Punctuation Apply

10. Grammar and Punctuation Review

11. Grammar and Punctuation Unit Test

4. **Writing Informative Text**

1. Writing Informative Text Introduction
2. Writing an Introduction
 - In this section, you will write an interesting introduction that follows a model.
3. Organizing Informational Text
 - In this section, you will identify four ways of organizing an informative or explanatory text.
 - In this section, you will compose a paragraph using time order structure
4. Developing a Topic
 - In this section, you will select definitions or facts to develop a topic for an informative or explanatory text.
5. Adding Graphics and Multimedia
 - In this section, you will select print features and graphics or multimedia elements to improve an informative or explanatory text.
6. Using Transitions
 - In this section, you will select transitions to connect ideas in an informative or explanatory text.
 - In this section, you will identify how transitions change the meaning of a sentence.
7. Using Precise and Formal Language
 - In this section, you will compose sentences with precise, formal language.
8. Writing an Effective Conclusion
 - In this section, you will compose a conclusion to an informative or explanatory text using a model.
9. Writing Informative Text Review
10. Writing Informative Text Portfolio 1
 - In this section, you will create a writing plan for an informative or explanatory essay of your own.
 - In this section, you will rewrite a paragraph so that the writing is concise.
11. Writing Informative Text Portfolio 2
 - In this section, you will select words that express your ideas concisely and precisely to help you focus and structure your writing to produce a coherent draft.
 - In this lesson, you will use a checklist to revise and edit the draft of your essay.
 - In this section, you will correct misspelled words when editing your draft.
12. Writing Informative Text Portfolio 3
 - In this section, you will create a bibliography of online sources for your essay.
 - In this section, you will assess how well your essay fulfills its purpose and meets the needs of your audience.

5. **Reading Literary Text**

1. Reading Literary Text Introduction
2. Determining Genre
 - In this section, you will identify a variety of literary genres using characteristics.
 - In this section, you will create a story that contains characteristics of a specific literary genre.
3. Inferential and Explicit Evidence
 - In this section, you will identify explicit and implicit details using text evidence.

4. Central Idea or Theme
 - In this section, you will locate text evidence to determine the central idea of a text.
 - In this section, you will explain how details of character, plot, setting, and symbol develop the theme or central idea of a literary text.
5. Summarizing Literary Text
 - In this section, you will summarize the main points of a literary text, without including your opinion.
6. Interaction of Story Elements
 - In this section, you will explain how the plot, characters, and setting in a story or drama affect each other.
7. Figurative and Connotative Meaning
 - In this section, you will determine the meaning of figurative language and the feelings or ideas suggested by a word or phrase (connotations).
8. Rhyme and Alliteration
 - In this section, you will explain how rhyme and repeated sounds affect meaning in a literary text.
9. Reading Literary Text Apply
 - In this section, you will compose an analytical paragraph that identifies a theme of a short story.
10. Reading Literary Text Review
11. Reading Literary Text Unit Test

6. **Building Vocabulary**

1. Building Vocabulary Introduction
2. Understanding Context Clues
 - In this section, you will identify the meaning of an unfamiliar word using context clues.
 - In this section, you will interpret context clues to determine the meaning of an unfamiliar word.
3. Using Context Clues
 - In this section, you will identify the meaning of an unfamiliar word using context clues, including synonyms.
4. Using Affixes and Roots
 - In this section, you will identify the meaning of roots, prefixes, and suffixes.
 - In this section, you will identify the meaning of words using prefixes and suffixes.
 - In this section, you will identify the meaning of words using roots and affixes.
5. Purpose of Reference Materials
 - In this section, you will explain the purpose of dictionaries, glossaries, and thesauruses.
 - In this section, you will select the appropriate reference material to complete a task.
 - In this section, you will identify word origins and derivations.
6. Using Reference Materials
 - In this section, you will identify syllabication, parts of speech, and pronunciation with reference materials.
 - In this section, you will determine the translation and pronunciation of a word using an online dictionary.
 - In this section, you will use word-reference materials to identify meanings and etymology.
7. Etymological Spelling Patterns

- In this section, you will apply Greek and Latin etymologies to determine the meaning of words.
- 8. Building Vocabulary Apply
 - In this section, you will determine the meaning of an unfamiliar word or phrase using a variety of strategies.
- 9. Building Vocabulary Review and Reflect
- 10. Building Vocabulary Unit Test
- 7. Writing a Narrative**
 1. Writing a Narrative Introduction
 2. Introducing a Narrative
 - In this section, you will analyze the introductions of stories and then write an engaging introduction of your own.
 3. Sequencing and Transitions
 - In this section, you will organize a logical sequence of events in a story.
 - In this section, you will use transition words, phrases, and clauses to show a sequence of events and shifts in setting and time as you write a story.
 4. Using Dialogue
 - In this section, you will write dialogue to develop the characters and events in a story.
 5. Pacing and Description
 - In this section, you will write descriptions and use pacing to develop the characters and events in a story.
 6. Description and Sensory Language
 - In this section, you will use precise sensory language to describe actions and events as you write a story.
 - In this section, you will use figurative language, such as similes, metaphors, and personification, in your writing.
 - In this section, you will identify and analyze ways that writers use language to add interest in and meaning to their writing, and use these stylistic techniques in your writing.
 7. Language and Style
 - In this section, you will use figurative language, such as similes, metaphors, and personification, in your writing.
 - In this section, you will identify and analyze ways that writers use language to add interest in and meaning to their writing, and use these stylistic techniques in your writing.
 8. Writing a Conclusion
 - In this section, you will write an effective conclusion to a narrative.
 9. Writing a Narrative Review
 10. Writing a Narrative Portfolio 1
 - In this section, you will analyze a sample writing plan and then complete a writing plan to develop your ideas for a story.
 - In this section, you will identify and remove wordiness and repeated details in your writing
 11. Writing a Narrative Portfolio 2
 - In this section, you will refine your word choices to express the ideas in your writing more precisely.
 - In this section, you will correct spelling errors in your writing
 - In this section, you will revise and edit your story to improve your writing.
 12. Writing a Narrative Portfolio 3
 - In this section, you will use technology to create a final copy of your story.

- In this section, you will assess how well your writing addresses its purpose and audience.

8. Media Literacy

1. Media Literacy Introduction

2. Mass Media

- In this section, you will define mass media and explain the purposes of different types of media.
- In this section, you will evaluate information presented in different types of mass media.
- In this section, you will evaluate the purpose of different types of mass media and the messages they provide.

3. Propaganda and Bias

- In this section, you will identify techniques that are used by the media to influence people's opinions and behaviors
- In this section, you will define bias and stereotyping and describe how the media uses bias and stereotyping to influence people's opinions and behaviors.
- In this section, you will determine the difference between a fact and an opinion. You'll review how to make an inference and understand how evidence can prove or disprove facts and inferences.

4. Point of View

- In this section, you will analyze the messages and points of view expressed in advertising.
- In this section, you will analyze the messages and points of view expressed in news programs and documentaries.
- In this section, you will analyze the messages and points of view expressed in websites, video games, and blogs.

5. Safe Practices, Ethics, and Fair Use

- In this section, you will identify ethical standards and explain why they are important to people who use social media.
- In this section, you will identify ways to stay safe when using social media sites.
- In this section, you will explain the principles of fair use and identify factors that affect how people can use a copyrighted work.

6. Citations and Attributions

- In this section, you will define *copyright* and *attribution* and identify when you should use an attribution to give credit to an author or source of information.
- In this section, you will provide citations when using information from sources in your writing.
- In this section, you will describe the types of licenses that Creative Commons provides and how the licenses affect how materials can be used.

7. Media Literacy: Apply

- In this section, you will explain how to identify, evaluate, and use information from media sources.

8. Media Literacy Review and Reflect

9. Media Literacy Unit Test

9. Speaking and Listening

1. Discussion Evidence

In this section, you will collaborate using technology.

In this section, you will identify ways to prepare for a discussion.

- In this section, you will defend your ideas and opinions in a discussion.
2. Discussion Protocols
In this section, you will identify rules for discussion.
In this section, you will identify questions that clarify comments made in a discussion.
In this section, you will explain how to effectively respond to questions and comments during a discussion.
 3. Speaking and Listening Apply
In this section, you will formulate an opinion about how an 1865 news account of the assassination of President Lincoln might be presented in today's 24-hour news cycle and discuss it with your peers.
 4. Speaking and Listening Apply Discussion

Semester B Summary:

In this course, the student will focus on reading, writing, and analyzing informational and narrative texts, as well as developing their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge. The students will read a variety of texts, and develop writing skills for various types of text.

Semester B Outline

1. Gifted and Talented ELA 7 B Course Overview

1. Gifted and Talented Language Arts 7 B Course Overview

2. Novel Study Introduction

1. Elements of Fiction
 - In this section, you will identify ways in which an author develops characters in a novel.
 - In this section, you will describe the basic elements that give structure to the plot of a literary text (a novel).
 - In this section, you will describe details of time and place that provide the setting for a literary text (a novel).
2. Choosing a Novel
 - In this section, you will identify strategies for choosing a novel appropriate to your reading level.
 - In this section, you will identify information learned about a novel by previewing the front matter and making personal connections to the chosen novel.
 - In this section, you will predict the central idea of the novel before reading it.

3. Analyzing Informational Text

1. Analyzing Informational Text Introduction
2. Analyzing Info Text Portfolio 1
 - In this section, you will analyze the organizational structure an author uses in an informational text, including how the major sections of an informational text contribute to the development of ideas in the text, and contribute to the whole.
3. Analyzing Info Text Portfolio 2
 - In this section, you will determine an author's purpose and point of view in an informational text.
4. Analyzing Info Text Portfolio 3
 - In this section, you will analyze how an author distinguishes his or her position from that of others in an informational text.

5. Comparing Print and Media
 - In this section, you will compare a printed informational text to an audio or video version of the text.
 6. Tracing an Argument
 - In this section, you will identify the author's claim, reasons, and evidence in an informational text.
 7. Assessing Reasoning
 - In this section, you will assess the effectiveness of an author's reasoning in an informational text.
 8. Evaluating Evidence
 - In this section, you will assess whether the supporting evidence in an argument is logical and sufficient.
 9. Emphasizing Different Evidence
 - In this section, you will compare the ways in which different authors present evidence in an informational text.
 10. Interpreting Facts
 - In this section, you will interpret facts in an informational presentation.
 11. Analyzing Informational Text Apply
 - In this section, you will contrast the positions, claims, and evidence in two informational texts.
 12. Analyzing Informational Text Review
 13. Analyzing Informational Text Unit Test
4. **Novel Study 2**
 1. Novel Study 2
 - In this section, you will analyze story elements to determine the central idea of a novel.
 - In this section, you will explain how an author develops a novel's central idea.
 - In this section, you will summarize a chapter of a novel.
5. **Writing an Argument**
 1. Writing an Argument Introduction
 2. Developing Claims
 - In this section, you will write supported claims.
 3. Opposing Claims
 - In this section, you will create an opposing claim.
 - In this section, you will create two opposing claims.
 4. Organizing Reasons and Evidence
 - In this section, you will identify evidence that supports a reason. You also will write organized reasons to support a claim.
 5. Identifying Credible Sources
 - In this section, you will evaluate credibility of a source using the CUES system.
 6. Claims, Reasons and Evidence
 - In this section, you will differentiate between claims, reasons, and evidence.
 - In this section, you will explain how a claim, reasons, and evidence in an argument are related.
 7. Cohesion
 - In this section, you will write a paragraph with clarifying words that connect ideas.
 8. Concluding an Argument
 - In this section, you will compose a strong conclusion.

9. Writing an Argument Review

10. Writing an Argument: Portfolio 1

- In this section, you will create a writing plan for an argument of your own.
- In this section, you will revise a paragraph to combine or vary sentences.

11. Writing an Argument: Portfolio 2

- In this section, you will use language that expresses the ideas in your argument concisely and precisely. You also will recognize other points of view.
- In this section, you will identify revisions and edits in an argument.
- In this section, you will correct spelling mistakes in a draft using reference materials as needed.

12. Writing an Argument: Portfolio 3

- In this section, you will write a works cited list of online sources.
- In this section, you will assess how well your argument fulfills its purpose and meets the needs of your audience.

6. Novel Study 3

1. Novel Study 3

- In this section, you will use text details to identify and describe the narrator of a novel
- In this section, you will use text details to identify and describe main characters (protagonists) and characters who oppose them (antagonists) in a novel.
- In this section, you will compare and contrast the points of view of characters in a novel.

7. Language and Style

1. Language and Style Introduction

2. Allusions and Figures of Speech

- In this section, you will identify allusions and other figures of speech.

3. Synonyms and Antonyms

- In this section, you will identify the relationship between words, such as synonyms and antonyms, to better understand their meanings.

4. Analogies

- In this section, you will recognize that the relationship between words in an analogy helps you understand their meanings.

5. Connotations vs. Denotations

- In this section, you will distinguish between the emotional and literal meanings of similar words.

6. Stylistic Techniques

- In this section, you will identify stylistic techniques in a poem that add interest and meaning.
- In this section, you will identify figurative language, such as similes, metaphors, and personification.

7. Language and Style Apply

- In this section, you will write a descriptive paragraph about a favorite person, place, or possession.

8. Language and Style Review and Reflect

9. Language and Style Unit Test

8. Novel Study 4

1. Novel Study 4

- In this section, you will explain how details of setting affect the characters and plot of a novel.

- In this section, you will explain how characters' traits and actions affect the plot and theme of a novel.
- In this section, you will explain how plot events affect the characters and theme of a novel.

9. Analyzing Literary Text

1. Analyzing Literary Text Introduction
2. Drama Form and Structure
 - In this section, you will analyze how the structure of a drama affects its meaning.
3. Poem Form and Structure
 - In this section, you will analyze how the form of a poem affects its meaning.
4. Comparing Genres
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast various forms and genres of fictional text.
5. Analyzing Literary Text Portfolio 1
 - In this section, you will analyze how an author develops and contrasts the points of view of different characters in a text.
 - In this section, you will analyze the points of view of different characters in stories.
6. Analyzing Literary Text Portfolio 2
 - In this section, you will identify plot elements, such as conflict and climax, in stories.
 - In this section, you will identify how conflict, characters, and setting affect the plots of stories.
 - In this section, you will evaluate figurative language in stories.
7. Analyzing Literary Text Portfolio 3
 - In this section, you will evaluate the use of literary devices to support your interpretations of stories.
 - In this section, you will analyze the effects of repeated images in stories.
 - In this section, you will write a story from two different points of view.
8. Analyzing Literary Text Apply
9. Analyzing Literary Text Review
10. Analyzing Literary Text Unit Test

10. Novel Study 5

1. Novel Study 5
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast fictional and historical portrayals of the same time period.
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast the fictional description of a place with historical information about the same place.
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast the fictional portrayal of a character with historical information about the same character.

11. Cultural Literacy

1. Cultural Literacy Introduction
2. Understanding Oral Tradition
 - In this section, you will identify features in an oral tradition tale told by one culture.
 - In this section, you will explain how the theme, plot, and characters in a literary tale reflect a culture's customs and attitudes.
3. Structure of Cultural Literature
 - In this section, you will explain how the structure of a literary tale presents a problem and a solution that affects the culture in some way.

- In this section, you will identify heritage language and its effects on English speech patterns
4. Recognizing Heritage
 - In this section, you will explain how a folktale reflects a culture's heritage or attitudes.
 - In this section, you will explain how a literary tale reflects a culture's values.
 5. Comparing Events and Texts
 - In this section, you will identify how different accounts of the same event are similar and how they are different.
 - In this section, you will compare and contrast different people's accounts of the same text.
 6. Cultural Literacy Apply
 - In this section, you will analyze a cultural work of literature.
 7. Cultural Literacy Review
 8. Cultural Literacy Unit Test

12. **Novel Study 6**

1. Novel Study 6
 - In this section, you will identify and use ways to determine the theme of a novel.
 - In this section, you will explain how plot events, details of setting, and characters' experiences help to shape a novel's theme.
 - In this section, you will write a literary analysis of a novel, focusing on the novel's plot, characters, and setting, and theme.

13. **Grammar and Punctuation II**

1. Grammar and Punctuation II Introduction
2. Phrases and Clauses
 - In this section, you will identify and explain the function of phrases and clauses in sentences.
3. Simple, Compound, Complex Sentences
 - In this section, you will identify simple, compound, complex, and compound-complex sentences.
4. Sentence Structure Signals
 - In this section, you will explain how sentence structures show relationships between ideas.
5. Choosing Sentence Structure
 - In this section, you will choose sentence structures that best express specific relationships between ideas.
6. More Phrases and Clauses
 - In this section, you will use modifiers, such as descriptive phrases and clauses, correctly within a sentence. You will also identify and correct modifiers and pronouns that are not used correctly in sentences.
 - In this section, you will use modifiers, such as descriptive phrases and clauses, correctly within a sentence. You will also identify and correct modifiers and pronouns that are not used correctly in sentences.
 - In this section, you will use commas correctly in sentences with dependent/subordinate clauses.
 - In this section, you will explain how changing the placement of a phrase or clause can affect the meaning of a sentence and add variety to your writing.
7. Grammar and Punctuation II Apply
 - In this section, you will write a paragraph about your favorite free-time activity.

8. Grammar and Punctuation II Review
9. Grammar and Punctuation II Unit Test

14. **Research and Presentation**

1. Research and Presentation Introduction
2. Conducting Research
 - In this section, you will conduct a research project to answer a question and gather information from several sources.
3. Search Terms
 - In this section, you will create and use search terms to find information on the internet.
4. Research Sources
 - In this section, you will gather information from at least three sources. You will also assess sources of information and provide citations for the sources of information that you use in your writing.
5. Avoiding Plagiarism
 - In this section, you will provide citations to avoid plagiarism when quoting and paraphrasing information in your writing.
6. Clarifying the Topic
 - In this section, you will explain how ideas that are presented in different media and formats can help you better understand a topic.
7. Sound Reasoning
 - In this section, you will identify the intended audience of a speaker's argument.
 - In this section, you will evaluate the reasoning that a speaker uses to support an argument.
8. Evidence
 - In this section, you will evaluate the evidence that a speaker uses to support claims in an argument.
9. Research and Presentation Review
10. Research and Presentation Portfolio 1
 - In this section, you will identify a claim for a research project and create an outline for a presentation of your claim and research findings.
 - In this section, you will create an outline for a presentation based on your claim and research findings.
 - In this section, you will use facts, details, and examples to support and emphasize claims in a presentation.
 - In this section, you will learn to use and cite primary and secondary sources in a research paper.
11. Research and Presentation Portfolio 2
 - In this section, you will identify ways to change and improve your presentation based on its purpose, context, and audience.
 - In this section, you will identify and remove wordiness and repeated details to improve a presentation.
 - In this section, you will evaluate the language in a presentation and improve the presentation by using a thesaurus to replace imprecise words and phrases.
 - In this section, you will add a multimedia component, such as a video, to support the claims and findings in your presentation.
12. Research and Presentation Portfolio 3
 - In this section, you will add visuals, such as photographs or charts, to clarify the claims in your presentation.

- In this section, you will make eye contact, speak loudly, and pronounce words clearly as you deliver a presentation.
- In this section, you will identify examples of informal and formal language and make revisions to use formal English in your presentation.

15. Speaking and Listening

1. Discussion Evidence

- In this section, you will collaborate using technology.
- In this section, you will identify ways to prepare for a discussion.
- In this section, you will defend your ideas and opinions in a discussion.

2. Discussion Protocols

- In this section, you will identify rules for discussion.
- In this section, you will identify questions that clarify comments made in a discussion.
- In this section, you will explain how to effectively respond to questions and comments during a discussion.

3. Speaking and Listening Apply

- In this section, you will interpret how hype or propaganda may bias reporting today, based on analyzing a 1912 article about the Titanic and media bias.

4. Speaking and Listening Discussion